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The Daily Gamecock, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

President, treasurer races see runoffs



TRACY



SALEEBY

Photos by Brian Almond / THE DAILY GAMECOCK



who is
KENNETH
BRAGG

Write-in candidate
single-handedly extends
treasurer election

Thad Moore
TMOORE@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

As the results of this year's Student Government elections were posted Wednesday night, the Russell House was abuzz with one question: Who is Kenneth Bragg?

The second-year economics student stepped foot in the SG Office for the first time Tuesday to write himself in for president, vice president, treasurer and senator of the College of Arts and Sciences.

He didn't think his vote would carry any weight. He was wrong.

In a tight treasurer race, Coy Gibson edged out Yousef Ibreak by one vote — 1,481 to 1,480 — to take first place and, presumably, the position.

But to win outright, Gibson needed 50 percent plus one vote, and the candidate earned just 50 percent, one vote shy of the victory.

That vote was Bragg's, who denied Gibson with just 0.034 percent of the vote.

"I was just going to do it, and only I was going to know — my friends or whoever I told. I thought it was funny," he said. "It was just one vote. I didn't think it would make any difference, but obviously, it did ... I couldn't believe I made an impact by writing my own name in."

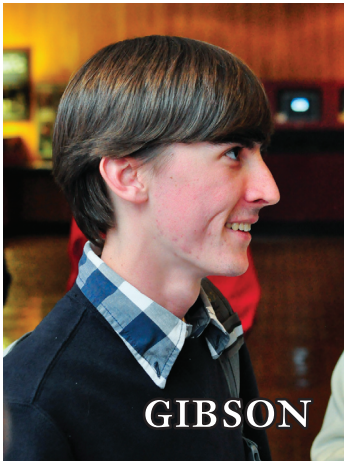
That disbelief was evident Wednesday evening.

The candidate of sorts was nowhere to be found as the results were announced. Instead, he was back home reading Aldous Huxley's classic "Brave New World" for a class and sounded surprised when he was contacted by a reporter.

BRAGG ● 2

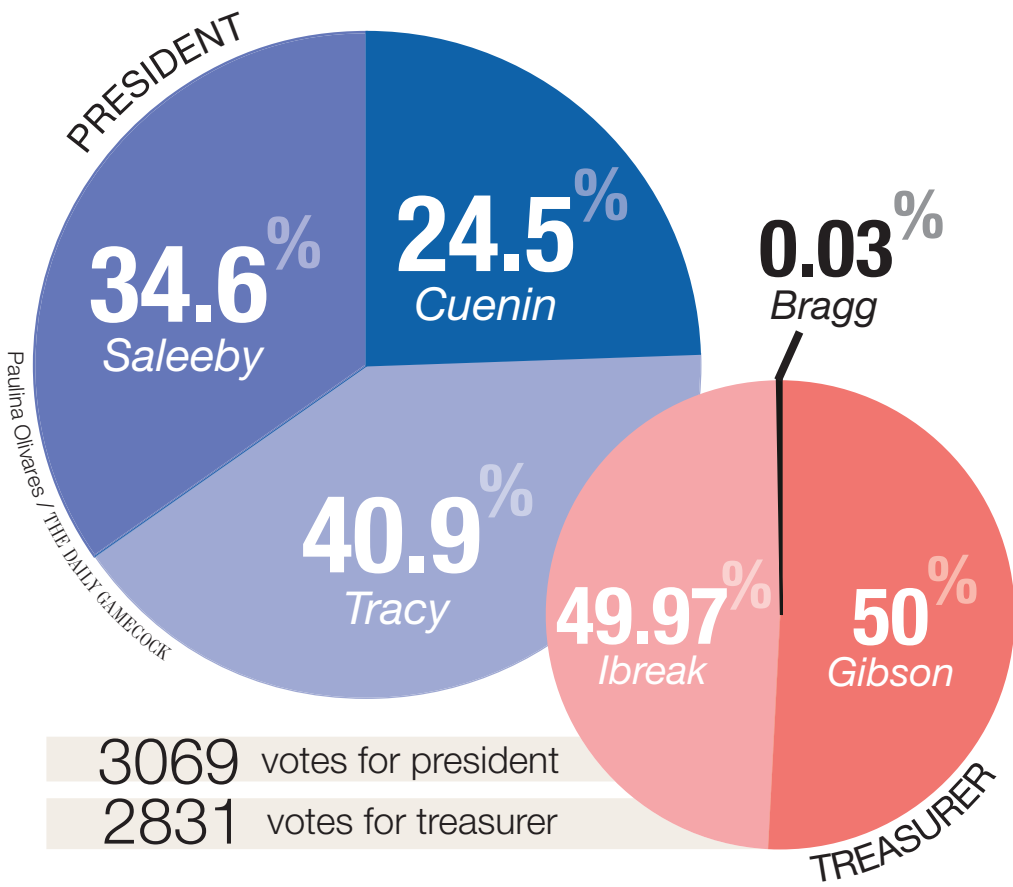


IBREAK



GIBSON

ELECTIONS RESULTS



Mizzell wins VP,
other contests
remain undecided

Colin Campbell
CCAMPBELL@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Kenny Tracy placed first in the Student Government presidential election Wednesday with 40.9 percent of the vote, but hours later, he was threatened with disqualification from the race altogether.

Tracy's campaign was accused of its third elections violation in two days. The first, a minor

incident, was dismissed by the elections commission. The second accused Tracy's staff of recruiting campaign members by promising them cabinet positions. It resulted in a 4.5-point penalty and put him on the brink of elimination. Tracy's campaign will appeal that penalty to the constitutional commission Monday night.

The third violation, brought Wednesday, alleged he'd campaigned illicitly using a university-owned table on Greene Street. The elections commission issued only a warning to Tracy's campaign.

A runoff election will

now take place between Tracy and second-place candidate Emily Saleeby, who finished with 34.6 percent of the vote.

John Cuenin, who received roughly 20 percent of the vote, has been eliminated from the race. Shortly after losing, Cuenin initially endorsed Tracy, citing Tracy's "vision for the university" and "drive to actually accomplish goals," as well as "a group supporting him that has passion for improving the lives of students on campus."

Upon realizing he would still have a shot at the runoff if Tracy were disqualified,

Cuenin rescinded his endorsement. When it was announced Tracy would not be eliminated from the runoff, Cuenin said he'd jumped the gun at first and wanted to think his endorsement through.

"I'll probably be endorsing sometime this weekend," Cuenin said. "I want to try to get a feel for where exactly [Saleeby and Tracy] want to bring the organization and, by association, the university. I want to see if they have the same ideals I do about making Student Government relevant ...

RUNOFFS ● 2

University kicks off RecycleMania competition

USC pitted against Clemson
in annual sustainability matchup

Sarah Harris
NEWS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

For the third year in a row, USC is participating with universities across the nation in an eight-week competition known as RecycleMania to see which school can recycle the most and generate the least amount of waste.

On Wednesday, Sustainable Carolina hosted an event on Davis Field to draw attention to the competition.

"Our mission is twofold; first, we want to make students aware that RecycleMania is going on right now. The second part is to make students aware of what they can recycle here on campus, which will help

us for the competition," USC Housing's Coordinator of Environmental Sustainability Margaret Bounds said.

To attract students, the event had games including an obstacle course of recycling bins, a bottle toss, can stacking and recycling sorting.

At the end of the day, the winners with the highest scores were put into a drawing to receive prizes donated by local vendors. The event also featured free food donated by Salsarita's and Cupcake.

It's all part of an effort to increase the university's standing in the competition — and win against its longtime rival.

"Clemson is our main competition, and they beat us last year, so we're hoping to get them this time around," Bounds said.

RecycleMania runs from Feb. 5 to March 31, and after one week of the competition, USC recycled 1,000

pounds of paper, 36,000 pounds of cardboard and 2,000 pounds of bottles and cans, according to Bounds.

This year, USC's composting is also being recorded, but those numbers aren't yet available.

In an average week, the campus produces around 100,000 pounds of trash.

"Our goal is really to improve from last year," fourth-year marine science student Kristen Lococo said. "We're new to the program, so we just want to move up in our rankings with other schools."

USC currently has the capability of processing a wide range of recyclable products, among them: plastic bottles, jugs and jars; just about any kind of paper, including magazines, newspapers, phone books and paperback books; and both corrugated and paper cardboard.

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WEATHER

Thursday
64° 47°

Friday
68° 43°

MIX

INSIDE

701

The Mix Tape
Assistant Mix Editor Kristyn Winch features the capital city's five finest art galleries.
See page 5

VIEWPOINTS

GOP Compromises
Columnist Emily Anderson says that Congress' compromise on tax cuts could hurt come November.
See page 4

SPORTS

A New Streak?
South Carolina beat Georgia 57-56 Wednesday to avoid a program-worst 1-10 SEC start.
See page 8



MIZZELL

RUNOFFS ● Cont. from 1

Everybody else had three weeks to decide; now I have a couple of days.”

Unopposed candidate Chase Mizzell received 2,830 votes for vice president — all but one write-in vote, for second-year economics student Kenneth Bragg, whose role in the treasurer race had much larger implications.

“I’m feeling great,” Mizzell said with a smile. “I’m excited to get all the senators together and get to work.”

After results were announced, Mizzell, who has made a point of not endorsing a presidential candidate, walked around and congratulated each.

“I guess we are the 99 percent,” Mizzell joked about his campaign, referencing the 99.9 percent margin by which he won the election.

Saleeby, who quickly

walked off to her vice president’s office when the results were called, explained her hasty exit later Wednesday evening.

“I was immediately thinking strategy,” Saleeby said. “I feel like I’m in the eye of a hurricane.”

She said she wanted a fair election, but hoped students, not the elections commission, would decide the outcome of the election.

“I don’t want a violation to be a deciding factor in who does or doesn’t win, but I think everybody should play by the rules,” Saleeby said before Tracy’s verdict was announced.

After it was announced Tracy would still be her opponent, Saleeby said it was the elections commission’s prerogative to judge the allegation and that she was simply preparing for the runoff.

Emerging from the conference room after the warning was announced, Tracy looked relieved.

“We’re running the smoothest campaign possible,” he said. “I’m happy it was dismissed, and I’m looking forward to moving on in the runoff.”

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BRAGG ● Continued from 1

Immediately after the announcement, Gibson and Ibreak were just as shocked.

“We have a whole week to go,” Gibson said. “I don’t know who [Bragg] is ... We’ve got to get that 51 percent next week.”

Ibreak, whose bid for the treasurer position was seemingly saved by Bragg’s vote, was more grateful.

“Since he didn’t make it into the runoff, I hope he supports me,” Ibreak said. “The momentum is on our side of the court. I entered into the race as an underdog and relied on students outside of SG for their support. Everyone told me it was going to be close, but no one expected it was going to be one vote.”

Bragg reciprocated that sentiment, joking that he might vote for Ibreak in the runoff election to try for a perfect 50-50 split.

But later Wednesday night, Bragg made his

endorsement of Ibreak official.

“I have decided to endorse Yousef Ibreak,” he wrote in a text message. “I believe his vision for the office and his drive toward innovation and transparency go more along the path of democratic values and will bring more awareness to the student body on issues concerning the way money is divided and spent in student organizations.”

Bragg also said he had considered running for student senate in this election and he was still thinking about making his bid — perhaps for senate or for president — more official next year.

“I missed the deadline because I wasn’t thinking about the elections,” he said, adding that he decided to write in his name in after he missed the filing date. “I definitely plan on running next year.”

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French mixes religion, environment

Professor talks eastern belief, sustainability

Will Torness
NEWS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Hal French, distinguished professor emeritus of religious studies at USC, brought the message of “Green Spirituality” to a circle of students and nonstudents alike Wednesday night at the West (Green) Quad Learning Center.

While “green” and “spiritual” may not be terms commonly paired in the same sentence, French led a discussion

on how, at a spiritual level, members of the world community can work toward improving the environment.

The talk touched on various aspects of spirituality, such as the Hindu practice of “ahimsa,” or nonviolence; the concept of enlightenment and the practice of Zen; and the goals of environmental programs such as the Sierra Club.

French, the former chairman of USC’s religious studies department, has authored several books, including his latest, “Zen and the Art of Anything.” When asked how he sees spirituality

coming into play with the modern-day environmental problems, he said he hopes people choose to leave the world a better place than they inherited.

“We hopefully are creating a world where our sensitivity enhances life conditions for generations yet to come,” French said.

Elaine Cooper, a Columbia resident and an active member of the Sierra Club, said she was drawn to the event because she’s hoping to expand the message of the Sierra Club to different areas that “aren’t normally associated with the environmental world,

including spirituality.”


Cooper believes the organization is making more inroads within the Columbia community.

USC’s sustainability organization, Sustainable Carolina, is another group that has made significant progress in environmental practices with both the community and its individuals.

David Whiteman, a political science professor and the faculty principal of West Quad, explained how Sustainable Carolina has several different project teams, one called “Greening the Mind,” that sponsored Wednesday’s event.

Whiteman also mentioned the campus community garden, which will open Friday. Students will be able to rent plots of land for a semester, which they can be in charge of managing.

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Carolina Beautiful
“Celebrate Your Body” Week
Events Feb. 20-24



monday, feb. 20
Beautiful Lengths
if you’ve got 8” of hair to spare and would like to donate it towards a wig for a cancer patient, this is your event
email galaradic@email.sc.edu for an appointment
6 pm russell house ballroom

the *Carolina Beautiful* main event
Whitney Thompson
America’s Next Top Model Winner
tuesday, feb. 21
a free, frank & inspirational discussion about body image, being a “plus” sized model in a size 0 industry, and loving who you are
8 pm russell house ballroom



wednesday, feb. 22
Bigger, Stronger, Faster
FREE movie followed by a discussion with Dr. Eric Williams, fitness guru and campus psychiatrist, about the quest for physical perfection
7:30 pm russell house ballroom c



thursday, feb. 23
Eating Disorders Discussion
real students who struggle speak out
4 pm russell house room 315



BE YOU (tiful)




Campus Wellness
STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Carolina Beautiful is an annual campus-wide initiative to promote positive body image and redefine beauty.

learn more at www.sa.sc.edu/shs/cw/cb


THIS WEEK SHE MASTERED THE TUBE,
CALLED HOME FROM A RED PHONE BOOTH
AND TOOK CLASSES IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY.



AND YOU?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS WEEK?

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YouTube f t

COME OUT & SUPPORT THE USC MENS CLUB LACROSSE TEAM!



2/17 - Georgia at FSU 8:30 pm	3/24 - at ECU 6:00 pm
2/18 - Miami at FSU 4:30 pm	3/30 - vs. Clemson 7:00pm*
2/19 - at Florida State 12:00 pm	4/14 - vs. NC State 6:00pm*
2/25 - vs. Coastal 7:00 pm*	4/21 - vs. Wake Forest 4:00 pm*
3/17 - at Virginia Tech 2:30 pm	
3/18 - at Richmond 12:00pm	

*at Strom fields

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SG election results highlight every vote

The first round of Student Government elections came to a close Wednesday night, which, to no one’s surprise, resulted in a runoff for the race for the presidency. The surprise of the night came in the treasurer’s race, which was forced to a runoff because of a lone write-in vote.

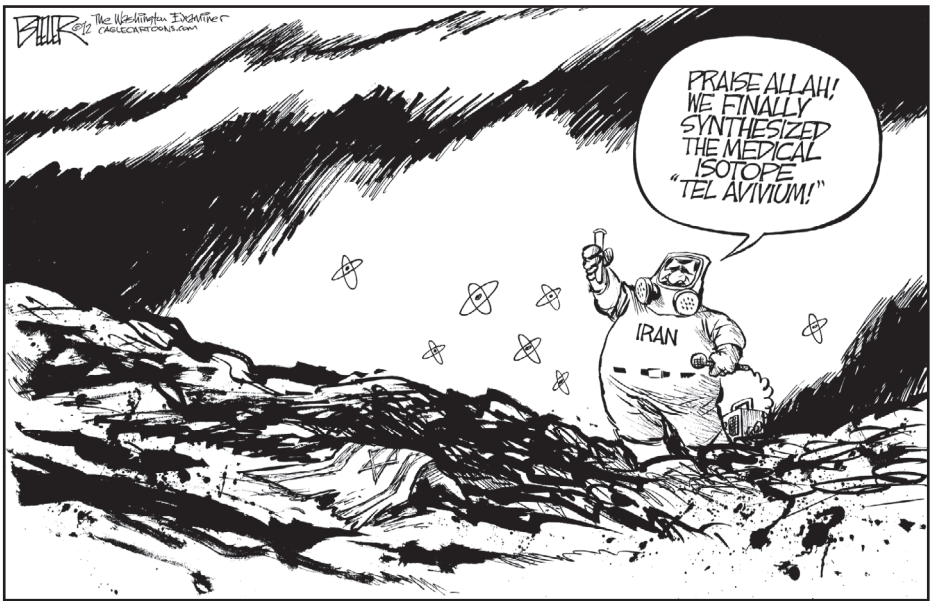
“Even though only 3,069 students decided to vote, the world is a better place knowing that each Student Government election vote actually makes a difference.”

privilege of witnessing another week of heartfelt campaigning campuswide.

While we all love a good Student Government elections brawl, the important fact that arose Wednesday night is just how important each vote is. A single additional hand shaken, another organization spoken to, one more student compelled enough to get off Facebook for one second to vote on VIP and the treasurer’s race would be decided.

Even though only 3,069 students decided to vote — a small percentage of the nearly 30,000 students who constitute the student body — the world is a better place knowing that each Student Government election vote actually makes a difference. This wasn’t a landslide election, which makes it all the more exciting.

So, as you’re interrupted by a campaign staffer telling you to vote while you attempt to run the gauntlet on Greene Street, just know that the sticker you wear can truly make the difference in who holds the bitterly contested executive positions.



GOP tax cut concession may backfire

Congress compromise could hurt in November

Congress struck a tentative deal Tuesday that allows President Barack Obama’s current payroll tax cut to be extended past its February expiration date. Social Security taxes will be kept at a reduced rate of 2 percentage points for another 10 months — a break that will save the average American family about \$1,000.

Although the Republican representatives in Congress voted in favor of the extension, the Republican Party is not pleased with its repercussions. A consensus has yet to be determined on how the extension will be funded, which Rep. Dennis Ross, R-Fla., deemed “bad policy.” Taxes will not be increased to pay for the cut, and Congress is trying to avoid a fee cut for Medicare doctors — referred to as the “doc fix” — in order to compensate for the \$100 billion price tag attached to the extension.

Some suggestions for funding include an increase in the amount of money federal employees pay into the system and the sale of the government-owned wireless spectrum into the private sector. Neither party was able to agree on either of these or any other solutions.

Obama’s success in persuading Congress to extend the payroll tax cut depended greatly on guilt-tripping the GOP. He urged the representatives to consider that “this is a make-or-break moment for the middle class”

and that “the last thing we need is for Washington to stand in the way of America’s comeback.”

The imminent presidential election is a likely explanation for the begrudged compliance of the Republican Party. The consent of the GOP to extend the payroll tax cut is an attempt to not offend its middle-class supporters, who may be turned off by the notion that Republicans are concerned only with the interests of the upper class — a sentiment greatly fueled by the public perception of Republicans as antagonists in the Occupy Wall Street movement.

“Americans are benefiting from [the payroll tax cut], and to take it away at this juncture leaves them open to charges of raising taxes,” said Brown University political scientist Wendy Schiller. “It would severely hamper the GOP presidential nominee’s effort to defeat Obama.”

Considering the recent rise in Obama’s approval rating, the possibility of unseating the incumbent president is becoming increasingly remote for Republican candidates. A recent Gallup poll shows that the president now has an 8-point advantage over the leading Republican, Mitt Romney, with whom he was tied for approval this fall.

As stated by Robert Bixby, executive director of the anti-deficit Concord Coalition, the consensus “seems to be yet another surrender to political convenience over fiscal responsibility.”

The Republican caucus’s reluctant agreement to extend the tax cut may backfire. Conforming to the desires of the DNC and disingenuously appealing to the general public in order to win the election will only paint Republicans into a corner should they succeed in unseating Obama.

Marital equality still not universal, despite advances

State acceptance painfully slow

Recently, the state of Washington passed a bill that legalized same-sex marriage. Currently, New Jersey has a similar bill going through the legislation process, already passing its Senate. Legal marriage for same-sex couples has been a controversial issue for a while now, but state governments are slowly creating legislation to dismiss the discrimination.

It’s important to note that these new legislations pertain to civil rights. Denying a couple marriage based on sexual orientation is a form of discrimination, just like other civil rights issues in the past. This issue should be adjusted and taken just as seriously as other civil right issues have been.

While some states are moving toward this change, others still are not. This Valentine’s Day, many gay and lesbian couples lined up at the Bexar County Courthouse in San Antonio, Texas, to be married. Unfortunately, those marriages will not be recognized as same-sex marriage is not legal in that state.

The couples that participated in these marriages ignored the legality of the situation and focused on practicing a symbolic act of love in honor of the holiday.

It’s important for citizens to realize that despite different ideologies, equality is what matters. If an opposite-sex couple has the legal right to be married, same-sex couples should as well. The fact that more states are producing legislation to legalize same-sex marriage shows growth and improvement for our country. Hopefully other states will catch up; until then, the fight for same-sex marriage will remain prevalent.



Erin Lewis
Second-year English student

Voter registration antiquated, needs fixing

Research shows millions contain flawed information, invalidating ballots

Given all of the hype that surrounds improving voter registration numbers across the nation every four years (51 million eligible voters are unregistered), you would expect the registration process to be quick and simple. In reality, the numbers tell a different story.

A recent Pew Report reveals that 2.8 million people are registered as active in more than one state, 12 million registrations have serious errors and 2.2 million votes had to be discarded in the 2008 election due to registration problems alone.

While the voter identification law is a controversial topic here in South Carolina, the flaws of the voter registration process itself are often overlooked nationwide. According to the report, the “mobile population” is most affected by the mistakes in the system. This group consists primarily of college students, other young adults, the military and the poor. All of these voices are significantly impacted by

government decisions and deserve to have their votes counted.

The college-age population has enough problems without having to worry about voter registration complications. The time it can take to deal with the bureaucracy is a luxury that the majority of the younger voting pool does not have available to sacrifice. Even the most politically involved can be turned off. The system mainly relies on paper to collect registrations, which results in countless errors when workers process information onto computers.

Especially regarding the younger population in today’s technologically advanced world, the familiarity with filling out electronic forms should be taken advantage of. Many students won’t know their vote won’t count until after they have voted, if the notice even reaches them at the correct address.

Young people are constantly on the move, splitting living arrangements among college apartments, parents’ homes and even nations abroad. The Pew

Report shares that 25 percent of voters believe their registration is changed when they move.

No one is there to remind students that when they establish a new residency, they will need to reregister to vote with the state in which they are now residing. Recent graduates also face challenges for November elections because they are hunting for jobs and find themselves transitioning to a new location.

People should demand and expect more from the government. The United States is a democratic nation that constantly promotes its “free and fair elections” worldwide. Some countries, such as Peru and Argentina, have more functional voter registration systems that instead allow the national government to create its own registry of eligible voters. Not only does this save labor and money, it seems to be a logical fit with a democratic government.

The U.S. system needs an overhaul. The upcoming presidential election will be critical in determining the political atmosphere of the next four years. It should be the responsibility of the government to register its own voters to ensure that votes cast — from all groups of the population — count.



Lauren Stefan
Fourth-year international studies student

IT’S YOUR RIGHT

The goal of The Daily Gamecock’s Viewpoints page is to stimulate discussion in the University of South Carolina community.

All published authors are expected to provide logical arguments to back their views.

The Daily Gamecock encourages readers to voice opinions and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on dailygamecock.com.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted via email to gamecockeditor@sc.edu. Letters must be 200 to 300 words in length

and include the author’s name, year in school and area of study.

We also invite student leaders and USC faculty members to submit guest columns. Columnists should keep submissions to about 500 words in length and include the author’s name and position.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length and clarity, or not publish at all.

All submissions become the property of The Daily Gamecock and must conform to the legal standards of USC Student Media.

CORRECTIONS

If you find an error in today’s edition of The Daily Gamecock, let us know about it. Email sagckvew@mailbox.sc.edu and we will print the correction in our next issue.

About The Daily Gamecock

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City's featured art galleries

Columbia's five creative spots feature local, international works

Kristyn Winch
KWINCH@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

if ART Gallery

Located just a few doors down from the Vista Starbucks, if ART Gallery is a cozy space that houses art made by South Carolinians, as well as artists from around the country and Europe. if ART Gallery's latest show, "Contemporary Carolina Abstraction I," opens Friday, Feb. 17 with a reception from 5 to 9 p.m. The show will feature work by Carl Blair, Ashlynn Browning, Laura Spong, Katie Walker and Don Zurlo. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

701 CCA

While 701 Center for Contemporary Art has made a name for itself by hosting some of the most wild and memorable parties in Columbia, the venue is also a cultural hot spot when it comes to visual art. The gallery's current exhibition, "Faster Forward," features work of nine artists from around the world, including Sean Hovendick and Bill Domonkos. The pieces all incorporate multimedia. In late April, 701 CCA will hold Columbia Open Studios, an opportunity for Midlands residents to look inside local artists' studios and observe them while they work. The gallery is open Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

City Art Gallery

Located in a former railroad warehouse, City Art Gallery also calls the Vista home. The gallery features a full-service framing department and a fine arts supply store (located in the building's basement) in addition to its three galleries. The main exhibition gallery hosts solo and group exhibitions, while the second-level gallery displays work produced by the gallery's represented artists. Between 30 and 60 artists have their work on display there throughout the year. City Art also has a small-works gallery where less traditional pieces like pottery, jewelry and decorative art are on display. The gallery is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Nonnah's

Located in the bustling restaurant row of the Vista, Nonnah's is one of the few places in town where you can buy a slice of cheesecake and a piece of artwork at the same time. Unlike most galleries in Columbia, restaurant seating is placed throughout the gallery, and customers are encouraged to enjoy their meals while perusing the work. Nonnah's gallery is open during the restaurant's regular business hours. Nonnah's is open for lunch Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and for dinner Monday through Thursday from 5 to 11 p.m., Friday from 5 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. and Saturday from 6 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Columbia Museum of Art

The galleries at the Columbia Museum of Art are probably the largest in the city and display a variety of work. Past exhibits range from rock 'n' roll photography to ancient tapestries. In addition to its permanent collection and traveling shows, the museum showcases youth artwork by students from the Midlands. The Art School at the Columbia Museum of Art offers a variety of classes for children and adults, and the venue is used for the museum's Arts & Draughts series, the Wadsworth Chamber Series and a host of other events. The museum is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

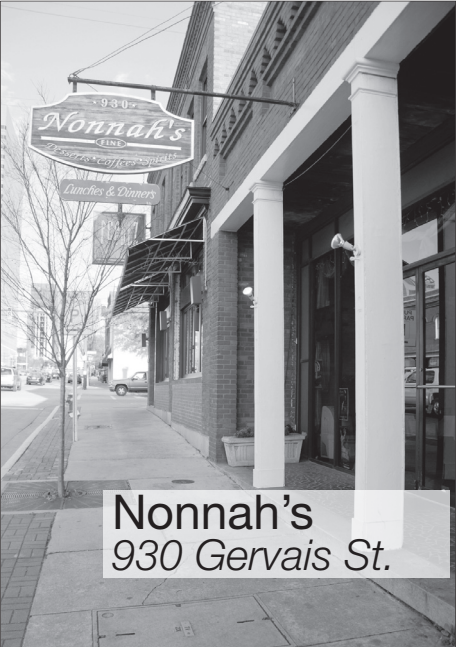
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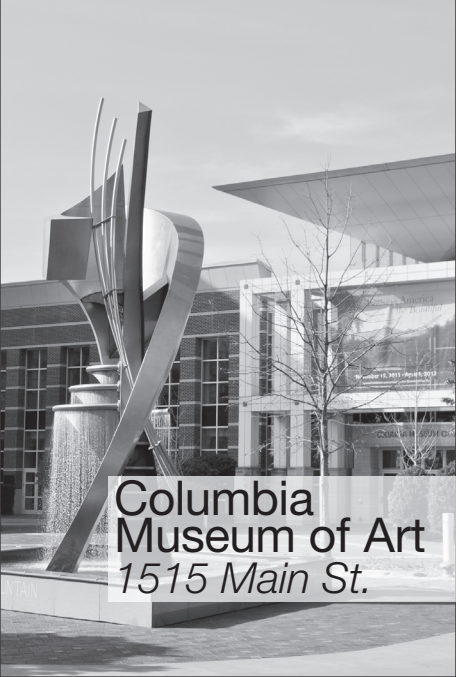
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The Columbia Museum of Art serves as the city's largest gallery, bringing in touring exhibits from across the world, but it also shows work from local artists and students in the Midlands.

Delta Sigma Theta steps up for charities



Spencer Scott / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Fraternity members of Alpha Phi Alpha dress up as sisters of Alpha Kappa Alpha in the mock step show performance.

Multicultural sororities, fraternities raise money for Lupus Foundation with mock show

Julianne Lewis
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Crimped and curled wigs swung from side to side as members of USC's multicultural fraternities and sororities busted out their best steps Wednesday night. Apple green neckties, tied-up baby pink button-ups and cargo shorts dressed to the opposite genders, lending to a night of best-effort dance moves.

The USC chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority hosted its Mock Step Show Wednesday night in the packed Williams-Brice Building Auditorium, which was reduced to standing room at the beginning of the night, as part of USC's Black History Month festivities.

And it was an evening that took on a greater, charitable cause. The event's \$3 admission was donated to the Lupus Foundation of America, Inc., and the victors of the mock show each received

\$100 to donate to a charity of their choice. The winning sorority, Sigma Gamma Rho, donated its \$100 prize to the American Cancer Society, and first-place fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, chose March of Dimes as part of "Project Alpha." "We're excited to donate the money to the American Cancer Society, which will go toward our Relay for Life team," said Sigma Gamma Rho President Shalee Fuller, a third-year film and media studies student. Alpha Phi Alpha's donation to Project Alpha will be a part of an ongoing collaboration among the national organizations. "The step show was a success. We practiced hard, and we did our thing. I love it," said Alpha Phi Alpha member JaQuane Bostick, a second-year early childhood education student. The show ran through six different performances by members of multicultural sororities and fraternities, who playfully mocked each other while showcasing their talents in dance and theater.



Spencer Scott / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Alpha Phi Alpha was crowned the winning fraternity, donating its \$100 prize to March of Dimes for its “Project Alpha.”

STEP ● Continued from 5

First to take the stage was Iota Phi Theta, mocking Sigma Gamma Rho with a performance to the “Blue’s Clues” theme song. Carefully styled hairdos and bright blue polos added to the opening act’s playful take on the sorority. The Sigma Gamma Rho step crew, a three-girl group clad in cargo shorts, performed to the theme of “Holes” (2003), making fun of Iota Phi Theta. Alpha Phi Alpha wore pink and green outfits — complete with Ralph Lauren checkered and

tied crop tops — to playfully poke fun at Alpha Kappa Alpha. The audience members cheered as they waved their pinky fingers in the air and imitated the girls in high-pitched voices. In turn, Alpha Kappa Alpha parodied the Alpha Phi Alpha chapter Theta Nu. Members sported black T-shirts with the phrase “They call it arrogant” on the front and “We call it Theta Nu” on the

back. The show concluded with the men of Kappa Alpha Psi and the women of Delta Sigma Theta. Kappa Alpha Psi members performed first, wearing “DST” spray-painted red shirts and dancing hilariously, making “Deltas” with their hands and stepping on beat. Delta Sigma Theta performed last using a “Guess the Kappa Alpha Psi” theme. The audience whooped

with laughter as the girls pranced on stage in different outfits to imitate the well-known men of the chapter. “The mock step show is a good event for all the fraternities and sororities to come and pick on each other without worrying about rivalry,” said Taverious Davis, a second-year marketing student.

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WUSC to interview of Montreal

To celebrate the groundbreaking indie pop act’s 11th full-length album “Paralytic Stalks,” WUSC will interview of Montreal’s keyboardist Dottie Alexander Thursday. The Athens, Ga., band, fronted by Kevin Barnes, is known for wildly flamboyant shows and crazy fun pop music. Alexander has contributed to four of the group’s most recent releases, including “False Priest” and “Skeletal Lamping.” The interview will air live on WUSC 90.5 FM with DJ Travis Byrd and other fans by the mic. It will be featured on WUSC’s newly relaunched website wusc.sc.edu later in the week. “Paralytic Stalks” premiered at No. 6 on WUSC’s charts this week.

Feb. 17	Georgia Theatre	Athens, Ga.
April 4	Cat’s Cradle	Carrboro, N.C.
April 5	The Orange Peel	Asheville, N.C.
April 6	Track 29	Asheville, N.C.
April 7	Variety Playhouse	Asheville, N.C.

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HOROSCOPES

Aries

You've got tons of energy for making big strides toward final outcomes. Don't worry about details right now. Your easy humor lets you coast to victory.

Leo

Don't wait until the last minute to finish projects. It's about to get intense, and you want to make it to the finish line. Relax with friends after a job well done.

Sagittarius

Put the pieces together. There's nothing that can stop you now. You can always get help for the puzzles you don't understand. A friendship thrives.

Taurus

A slow morning leads to big-picture conversations with a broad outlook. Take notes. New doors are opening for greater leadership.

Virgo

You keep your family together with your capacity to see both sides of the story. Create better communication channels. Don't get too serious.

Gemini

Continue developing partnerships in impossible places. In case of doubt, review the instructions. Put yourself in another person's shoes.

Libra

You get a morale booster. Now see if you can pass it on. There are many opportunities for growth, especially in your relationships. Let them know what you heard.

Cancer

As if you're not busy enough, there's more work coming. Someone shows you how to use technology to increase productivity. Two heads are better than one.

Scorpio

There may be morning grumpiness or frustration. Get into projects with diligence and passion, and afternoon energy relaxes. Look for beauty, and find it.

Aquarius

You can really make it happen. Surround yourself with those who truly support your creative vision. There's no need for extravagance.

Pisces

Enjoy peaceful moments. See yourself in a new light. Your enthusiasm and creativity are quite attractive. You're more appreciated than you know.

THE SCENE



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Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

02/16/12

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ACROSS

1 Photo finish
6 Turned right
10 Caen cleric
14 Meet the need
15 Chorus girl
16 Catch with the goods, maybe
17 Digs
20 Amateur ending
21 Sgt. maj., e.g.
22 Uncle Sam feature
23 "A Dog of Flanders" author
26 Trading place
27 Angled joint
28 Digs
32 Textbook unit
33 "Air Music" composer
34 Alberta native
35 Limited number, with "the"
36 Mosul's land
40 Not hide
43 Country with six time zones
45 Digs
49 Syst. of sound syllables
50 Mil. ranks
51 Very peculiar
52 1997 Nicolas Cage hair-raiser
54 First name in objectivism
55 Overseas denial
58 Digs
62 Bus sched. data
63 Leap for Scott Hamilton
64 Reunion group
65 __ speak
66 Banks on the tube
67 Rapper's crew
DOWN
1 When repeated, a fish
2 Name on an airport shuttle
3 British tavern
4 Service reward
5 Priest in I Samuel
6 Garage container
7 Cockney greeting
8 WWII command
9 More evasive
10 Spotlit solo
11 Teasing
12 Omaha chief who was an ally of the U.S. in the War of

1812

13 1950s bombs
18 Conclude with
19 "I haven't the foggiest!"
24 Open, in a way
25 Simpson judge
26 Bow
28 Mom's skill, briefly
29 Flying prefix
30 "On the Record" host Van Susteren
31 Key with no sharps or flats
35 Whopper juniors?
37 Famished
38 Ending for lime
39 __ in Quebec
41 Screenwriter Ephron
42 Big spender's offer
43 Held on
44 Qty.
45 Anglican priests
46 Wine city north of Lisbon
47 Surgeon's tool
48 Common Jesuit school name
53 Semi-serious "I see"
54 One of the Sox,

Solutions from 02/15/12

J A N D J L A L A L E F T
E N S U E E P I C E R I E
E G Y P T A N N E M E A R A
P E N E L O P E C R U Z
S L C A F T A B R A N C H
M G S P I T O R E
U N D O T O P E C H E L O N
H O O T S V A L A S I A N
H O P E C H E S T S P E T A
U N E O U R L A Y
H E Y M O M E D O M A A A
O P E C M E E T I N G S
C L A S S R O O M R A N I S
H I D E U P T O A G A T E
E D D Y S E E N K O L A S


e.g.
56 Silo contents: Abbr.
57 Latin 101 verb
59 Acne treatment brand
60 You may be told to shut yours
61 "Out of Sight" co-star, familiarly

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By The Mephram Group

02/16/12

1		5		8		4		
					5			
				1		7		9
3				4	8		6	
	7						5	
	6		2	5			8	9
	8		6		2			
			5					
		7		1		5		2

Level 1 2 3 4

How to Play
Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution for 02/15/12

6	1	8	9	7	4	5	3	2
4	2	7	5	3	1	9	8	6
5	9	3	8	6	2	7	1	4
3	7	6	1	4	5	2	9	8
1	8	9	6	2	3	4	7	5
2	4	5	7	8	9	3	6	1
8	5	1	4	9	7	6	2	3
7	6	2	3	5	8	1	4	9
9	3	4	2	1	6	8	5	7

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A new streak? Gamecocks top UGA

USC picks up second SEC win in 57-56 victory over Georgia

Isabelle Khurshudyan
IKHURSHUDYAN@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Georgia coach Mark Fox is familiar with South Carolina senior Malik Cooke.

Fox recruited Cooke to play at Nevada, where they won a conference championship together. Both left the program in 2009, when Fox debuted as the coach at UGA and Cooke transferred to USC.

With a 1-point lead in the last minute of the game, Fox wasn't surprised to see his former player drive the lane and make a jumper with 20 seconds left in the game, giving the Gamecocks a 57-56 lead they wouldn't relinquish.

"He's a winner and we won a championship together years ago, so I hate to see the ball in his hands," Fox said. "They're a good team, and certainly we needed one more basket late."

The Bulldogs nearly got that basket late, as Gerald Robinson drove the lane after Cooke's jumper, but had his shot blocked by USC sophomore Damontre Harris.

"I was just trying to make a play to win a basketball game," Harris said. "For the most part, I saw that he was driving to the rim, so I was just trying to get a hand on it — trying to make a play."

The Bulldogs got another opportunity as Kentavious Caldwell-Pope had the last shot with a 3-pointer that Fox said was a good look but was ultimately off the mark. Cooke got the rebound, but Marcus Thornton forced a jump ball with 0.2 seconds left on the clock.

Nemanja Djuricic put the ball up for the Bulldogs, but a tip by Harris sent the ball into the side of the backboard before a Georgia player had the chance to tip it in.

For USC head coach Darrin Horn, Harris has been a consistent staple for the Gamecocks, even through the losing stretch.

"I think he's having a borderline All-SEC year," Horn said. "It's not double-doubles like some of the guys you see around the league, but he's right there — he had five blocks tonight. He had key plays, key rebounds, and he's really doing it on both ends. He's a young man that just keeps getting better and better."

The win kept the Gamecocks from falling to 1-10 in the SEC, though Horn credited Cooke for keeping the spirits of the team high throughout the losing stretch.

"If you keep working hard and doing good things, eventually good things are going to happen for you," Horn said. "No one deserves to make a play like that more than Malik does. He really has stayed extremely positive and done a really good job with our young guys and was phenomenal in huddles tonight and on the floor talking to our team — giving them confidence. I think it's fitting that he's the guy that makes the shot tonight that helped us win the game."

Cooke, who finished with a game-high 13 points — just six points away from 1,000 points for his collegiate career — looks at the team's second SEC win as something it can build on going into the last stretch of conference play.

"It's very upbeat," Cooke said. "We all enjoy what we do. We like doing this. We just want to come in and get better. We just try to get better throughout



Lee Walker / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Sophomore forward Damontre Harris finished with nine points and five blocks in South Carolina's win over the Bulldogs.

the season. If we can do that, I think we can build on it to the tournament. You never know what could happen and definitely build onto next season for the guys who are coming back."

Fox said he and Cooke didn't talk much after the game but that he congratulated Cooke on the win. Even in playing against Cooke's former coach, that took a backseat to the team's need — getting a win it desperately needed.

"Me and him have a very good relationship," Cooke said. "He's a good coach. I respect him a lot. I was just trying to get a win for South Carolina. I wasn't really worried about any of the other stuff because we needed one."

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Free throws, defense push USC to win

Williams, Slawson contribute to victory

Kyle Heck
KHECK@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

With 13 seconds left in the game Wednesday night and Carolina holding on to a 57-56 lead after a Malik Cooke jumper, Bruce Ellington was at the free-throw line for a one-and-one opportunity. The Gamecocks were a perfect 14-14 from the line, and a free throw would have given USC a chance to make it a three-point game.

At the most crucial time, Ellington's attempt was off the mark, giving Georgia an opportunity to win it at the buzzer. Fortunately for the Gamecocks, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope's 3-pointer was off the mark, allowing USC to exhale and escape Colonial Life Arena with a 57-56 win. The team finished a season-best 14-15 from the line.

"I think it was huge," said coach Darrin Horn. "The timing of (free throws) was big, especially Anthony (Gill). Our only miss was the one by Bruce late, but getting to the line 15 times was positive for us."

RJ Slawson made his second-straight start against Georgia. On Wednesday night against the Bulldogs, the sophomore registered six points, three rebounds and two steals in 16 minutes. At one point in the first half, Slawson had back-to-back dunks during a 7-0 run by the Gamecocks (10-15, 2-9 SEC).

Damontre Harris and Brenton Williams both played big roles in USC's second SEC win of the season. Horn said everyone on the team, even the ones who didn't play Wednesday



Lee Walker / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

USC guard Brenton Williams finished with 10 points in 17 minutes in the win over UGA.

night, were important parts in the win.

"A huge key to this game and to the way we played was the effort of some guys who didn't play much tonight," Horn said. "Brian Richardson, Carlton Geathers and Eric Smith made our practices great on Monday and Tuesday. They really brought tremendous energy and made our practices competitive and the type of practices that you have to have to get better and put yourself in position to do this today."

Harris finished with nine points, eight rebounds and five blocks while Williams had 10 points, including eight

team points in 17 minutes. Harris' 38 minutes were especially important to Horn, as Harris has struggled with foul trouble this season and his athleticism was needed late in the game.

"Anytime it is a scramble situation late like that, I always kind of expect Damontre to come over and at least make a play on it," Horn said.

After falling behind 46-39 after a 13-2 run by Georgia, the Gamecocks used a suffocating defense to play their way back into the game. About halfway through the second half, the Bulldogs were shooting nearly 53.8 percent from the field. By the time the final buzzer

sounded, that percentage was at 39.3.

Horn said the defense was the main reason USC was able to pull off the win, and the stats backed him up, as the Gamecocks shot a meager 38.8 percent for the game.

"The difference in the game was the job that we did on the defensive end," Horn said. "We really varied our looks tonight, and I think that really helped us. Offensively, we weren't stellar, but we made the plays that we needed to make down the stretch."

In the last couple of games, USC was plagued by turnovers that resulted in huge runs for the other team. A couple of times during the game Wednesday, Georgia was on the verge of one of those runs after the Gamecocks turned the ball over at crucial points in the game.

However, according to Horn, the team was able to play through the 14 turnovers by staying focused and not letting the miscues get to their heads.

"The difference tonight was that we were able to play the game four minutes at a time," Horn said. "We didn't get caught up in the whole of things or our run or their run; we just kept playing the next four minutes. The other thing we did was make some plays during those stretches. We got to the offensive glass, got some putbacks and got some fouls."

Georgia head coach Mark Fox said he thought the Gamecocks were the "hungrier" team Wednesday, something that sounded eerily similar to what Alabama's Anthony Grant said after the Gamecocks' only other SEC win.

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